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31353 U.S. PTO  
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**Box PATENT APPLICATION**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**Washington, DC 20231**

New U.S. Patent Application

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURING A LOAD  
TO A PALLET WITH A ROPE FILM WEB

Inventors: Patrick R. Lancaster, III et al.

Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above patent application.

1. Application- 73 pages, including title page, Abstract, 26 independent claims and 119 claims total.
2. Drawings- 21 sheets of drawings (Figures 1, 2A-2D, 3, 4A-4B, 5A-5B, 6A-6C, 7A-7D, and 8-11).
3. **Applicants claim the benefit of priority of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/443,845, filed January 31, 2003 and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/500,221 filed September 5, 2003.**

Please address all correspondence with respect to this application to:

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This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f).  
Applicants await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for  
filing the Declaration and paying the required filing fees.

Please accord this application an application number and filing date.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due and any other fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17, **WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FILING FEE FOR THIS APPLICATION**, during the pendency of this application to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: Elizabeth M. Burke  
Elizabeth M. Burke  
Reg. No. 38,758

EMB/mwr  
Enclosures